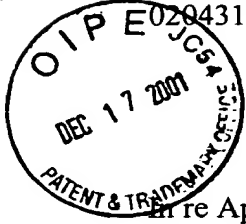


12-20-01

AF 2164

Attorney's Docket No.  
020431.0467

Patent Application  
09/398,170



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:                      Ranjit N. Notani  
Serial No.:                                      09/398,170  
Filing Date:                                  September 17, 1999  
Group Art Unit:                                2164  
Examiner:                                      Pedro R. Kanof  
Title:    SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR MULTI-ENTERPRISE  
   SUPPLY CHAIN OPTIMIZATION

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Technology Center 2100

BOX AF  
Assistant Commissioner of  
Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY EXPRESS MAIL

I hereby certify that the attached Response Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 (21 pages) and this Certificate of Mailing are being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 C.F.R. § 1.10 on this 17th day of December, 2001 and are addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

Willie Jiles  
Willie Jiles

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Attorney's Docket No.: 020431.0467

Attorney's Docket:  
020431.0467

Patent Application  
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Title:    SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR MULTI-ENTERPRISE  
SUPPLY CHAIN OPTIMIZATION

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Assistant Commissioner of  
Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

**RESPONSE PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. § 1.116**

In response to the Final Office Action mailed October 16, 2001, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to reconsider the rejection of the claims in view of the following remarks.